

Message Text

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ACTION CU-06

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9801

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BANGUI 0248

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, CT (RODGERS, IRENE)

SUBJ: NOMINATION OF IRENE RODGERS FOR 1978-79 LECTURESHIP IN CAE

REF: CIES MEMO 12/20/77

1. THE EMBASSY CONCURS WITH THE CIES CHOICE OF IRENE RODGERS AS A FULBRIGHT TEFL PROFESSOR IN THE CAE. WE ARE FAMILIAR WITH MS. RODGERS FROM HER WORK AS PEACE CORPS LANGUAGE COORDINATOR IN LATE 1976, AND BELIEVE SHE WILL DO AN EXCELLENT JOB IN TEACHER TRAINING AND TEFL IN THE CAE. WE HAVE DISCUSSED HER CANDIDACY WITH THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, THE VICE CHANCELLOR AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PEDAGOGIC INSTITUTE (IPN). ALL ARE IN AGREEMENT WITH MS. RODGERS' PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITY AND HAVE OFFERED THEIR COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR HER.

2. MS. RODGERS WILL HAVE A DUAL ASSIGNMENT TO THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND THE IPN. AT THE UNIVERSITY MS. RODGERS WILL TEACH STUDENTS OF THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF THE "LICENCE D'ANGLAIS". THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE IN THE AMERICAN SYSTEM. SHE WILL BE POSTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE AT THE FACULTY OF LETTERS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. THE HEAD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING COURSE LOAD: (1) A COURSE IN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION (HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, ECONOMICS, AND POLITICAL SCIENCE OF THE US); (2) A COURSE IN GENERAL AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS; AND (3) A

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COURSE IN BASIC ENGLISH FOR STUDENTS OF ECONOMICS AND LAW (AT THE FACULTY OF LAW). EACH COURSE WOULD ENTAIL THREE HOURS OF TEACHING TIME. THE LIBRARY OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IS FAIRLY LIMITED AND MS. RODGERS WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO BRING ANY MATERIALS (INCLUDING TEXTS) WHICH SHE BELIEVES INDISPENSABLE.

3. AT THE IPN, MS. RODGERS WILL ASSIST EFFORTS TO INFUSE MODERN

TEFL METHODOLOGY INTO THE ENGLISH PROGRAMS OF THE NATION'S HIGH SCHOOLS. SHE WILL WORK WITH TOM SCHAEFER, DIRECTOR OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING (AND A FORMER PCV), WITH WHOM SHE WORKED DURING HER EARLIER STAY IN THE CAE. THROUGH THE IPN, MS. RODGERS WILL ASSIST TRAINING OF ENGLISH TEACHERS AT THE NATIONAL TEACHERS COLLEGE (ENS) WITH SEMINARS.

4. AS HER TIME PERMITS, WE WOULD ALSO LIKE MS. RODGERS TO ASSIST THE VARIOUS OTHER TEFL PROGRAMS IN THE CAE. THE PEACE CORPS HAS AN ACTIVE TEFL PROGRAM INVOLVING 27 TEACHERS WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO ADAPT ENGLISH TEACHING METHODOLOGY TO AN AFRICAN MILIEU. MS. RODGERS COULD WORK WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS TEFL PROGRAM TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PERHAPS ORGANIZE SEMINARS FOR TEFL TEACHERS. FYI THE PEACE CORPS HAS ASKED MS. RODGERS TO RETURN TO BANGUI DURING THE SUMMER OF 1978 TO DIRECT ITS FRENCH-LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS. WE CONCUR WITH THIS PROPOSAL (WHICH WOULD BE SEPARATE FROM HER FULBRIGHT ASSIGNMENT), WHICH WOULD ALLOW HER TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH PC TEFL TEACHERS AND WOULD PROVIDE A RUNNING START FOR HER FULBRIGHT ASSIGNMENT. END FYI. MS. RODGERS COULD ALSO ASSIST THE ADULT ENGLISH PROGRAM AND THE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER. THE PROGRAM CURRENTLY INVOLVES 85 STUDENTS, FOCUSING UPON GOVERNMENT CIVIL SERVANTS AND EDUCATION OFFICIALS. WE ARE SENDING SEVERAL DOCUMENTS ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN THE CAE DIRECTLY TO MS. RODGERS AT HER PARIS ADDRESS.

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5. THE CENTRAL AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR MS. RODGERS AND HER DAUGHTER. SHE WILL BE ENTITLED TO ADMINISTRATIVE AND SECRETARIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED TO ALL UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS. SHE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING HER OWN TRANSPORTATION. MS. RODGERS WILL BE ENTITLED TO USE THE COMMISSARY SERVICES OF WACASC, WHICH PROVIDES A MONTHLY SUPPORT FLIGHT OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS. THE EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE AS REQUIRED. MS. RODGERS WILL ENJOY DIPLOMATIC POUCH PRIVILEGES. USIS WILL ASSIST HER WITH SOME MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR TEACHING MATERIALS.

6. FOR PARIS: PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE TO IRENE RODGERS, 151 AVENUE DE CHOISY, 75013 PARIS; TELEPHONE NO. 587-05-87.
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